

about the spending bill before us this week. How will billions spent on school snack programs and repairs to the Smithsonian Institution stimulate the economy? How will \$3 billion being spent for a prevention and wellness fund stimulate the economy?

It is clear that this spending package has become a one-stop shop for every item on a spending agenda—a massive, unprecedented spending bill aimed to bypass the normal appropriations process and subsidize a broad range of existing and new government programs. We must do better, and together we can do better to create jobs.

A targeted stimulus package of tax relief and assistance for small businesses would fuel this Nation's entrepreneurial spirit and help private industry and individuals create jobs. Our focus should be on growing the American economy and not on growing an already massive government.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

LAND OF ENCHANTMENT

(Mr. LUJÁN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LUJÁN. Mr. Speaker, New Mexico is known as the Land of Enchantment because of our people, beautiful landscapes, clear skies, and fresh air. My district is home to millions of acres of Federal lands and countless natural resources—resources that create opportunities and challenges.

One challenge my district faces is water availability and allocation. Water projects on either side of the State have been long planned, and now may come to fruition. As someone who tends to the acequia, the ditch on our small family farm, I know the importance of water to rural economies across America.

Land, water, and sustainability are not only fundamental to life in my State, they are fundamental to rich cultures and traditions that make New Mexico great, like acequias and land grants, which are an essential part of the rural economies of my district.

Let us work together in protecting New Mexico's rich culture and traditions.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING,
Washington, DC, January 26, 2009.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER, I am writing to resign my position as the United States Representative for the 20th District of New York

effective Monday, January 26, 2009. Governor David Paterson of New York has selected me to fill the vacancy left in the U.S. Senate by Hillary Rodham Clinton's resignation to become our Secretary of State. My letter of resignation addressed to the New York Secretary of State is attached.

It has been a great privilege for me to serve the constituents of New York's 20th District in the House of Representatives for the past two years. I hope to build on the work I began in this district, to help all of the people of New York.

I also want to thank you, Madam Speaker, my colleagues in the House, and in particular the New York Congressional delegation. I am so grateful for my time in the House, for and the honor working with so many outstanding Members. I look forward to continuing our work and collaboration to build a better New York and a better America.

Thank you and God bless,
KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND.

Attachment:
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING,
Washington, DC, January 23, 2009.

Hon. LORRAINE CORTES-VASQUEZ,
Secretary of State, Department of State, Washington Avenue, Albany, NY.

DEAR SECRETARY CORTES-VASQUEZ: This letter is to inform you that effective immediately, I resign my seat in the United States Congress in order to assume my duties as United States Senator.

Very truly yours,
KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the whole number of the House is 433.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1730

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California) at 5 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

NATIONAL DATA PRIVACY DAY

Mr. WELCH. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 31) expressing support for designation of January 28, 2009, as "National Data Privacy Day".

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 31

Whereas the Internet and the capabilities of modern technology cause data privacy issues to figure prominently in the lives of many people in the United States at work, in their interaction with government and public authorities, in the health field, in e-commerce transactions, and online generally;

Whereas many individuals are unaware of data protection and privacy laws generally and of specific steps that can be taken to help protect the privacy of personal information online;

Whereas "National Data Privacy Day" constitutes an international collaboration and a nationwide and statewide effort to raise awareness about data privacy and the protection of personal information on the Internet;

Whereas government officials from the United States and Europe, privacy professionals, academics, legal scholars, representatives of international businesses, and others with an interest in data privacy issues are working together on this date to further the discussion about data privacy and protection;

Whereas privacy professionals and educators are being encouraged to take the time to discuss data privacy and protection issues with teens in high schools across the country;

Whereas the recognition of "National Data Privacy Day" will encourage more people nationwide to be aware of data privacy concerns and to take steps to protect their personal information online; and

Whereas January 28, 2009, would be an appropriate day to designate as "National Data Privacy Day": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the designation of a "National Data Privacy Day";

(2) encourages State and local governments to observe the day with appropriate activities that promote awareness of data privacy;

(3) encourages privacy professionals and educators to discuss data privacy and protection issues with teens in high schools across the United States; and

(4) encourages individuals across the Nation to be aware of data privacy concerns and to take steps to protect their personal information online.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Vermont.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WELCH. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Vermont?

There was no objection.

Mr. WELCH. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support today of House Resolution 31, introduced by Representative